

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 IO-13 /084 W  
-----022106Z 095757 /62

R 021523Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3877  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 2052

T.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT LE  
SUBJ: MEMORIAL DAY FOR KAMAL JUNBLATT

1. MORE THAN 30,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED MASSIVE MEETING AT  
UNESCO COMPOUND IN WEST BEIRUT ON APRIL 30 TO COMMEMORATE  
40TH DAY OF DEATH OF KAMAL JUNBLATT. MEETING WAS PEACEFUL,  
ALTHOUGH TWO UNTOWARD INCIDENTS OCCURRED ELSEWHERE: ONE ON  
OUTSKIRTS OF BEIRUT AND ONE IN THE CHOUF.

2. REPRESENTING FIRST LARGE GATHERING OF LEFT SINCE END  
OF CIVIL STRIFE IN LEBANON, MEETING WAS APPARENTLY INTENDED  
AS DEMONSTRATION OF STRENGTH AND VITALITY. WALID JUNBLATT  
PRESIDED. PRIME MINISTER SALIM AL-HOSS, MINISTER OF FARID  
RAPHAEL, MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS AMINE BIZRI, MINISTER  
OF INTERIOR SALAH SALMAN, AND OTHER LEBANESE ATTENDED. ALSO  
PRESENT WERE YASSIR ARAFAT AS WELL AS DELEGATIONS FROM  
SOVIET UNION, HUNGARY, IRAQ, EAST GERMAN, ERITREAN LIBERA-  
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TION FRONT, AND OTHER FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

3. WALID MADE KEYNOTE SPEECH. ACCORDING TO BEIRUT RADIO,  
HE ASKED GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE TO FIND ASSASSINS OF HIS  
FATHER AND NOT TO FORGET HIS MEMORY. HE PROMISED THAT  
POPULAR SOCIALIST PARTY WOULD CONTINUE POLICIES OF KAMAL  
AND SUPPORT FOR AIMS OF PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE.

4. TWO INCIDENTS MARRED DAY'S ACTIVITIES. ACCORDING TO A NUMBER OF SOURCES, AT ABOUT 0915 HOURS ON APRIL 30, SYRIAN ASF FORCES NEAR OUZAI MOSQUE IN WEST BEIRUT STOPPED TWO CARS CARRYING TEN DRUZE COMING FROM THE CHOUF TO ATTEND MEETING. ACCORDING TO ONE OF DRUZE, THEY PROTESTED RIGHT OF ASF TO STOP THEM AND WERE MACHINE GUNNED AS THEY DROVE AWAY. (ACCORDING TO LEBANESE POLICE SOURCES, DRUZE WERE STOPPED BECAUSE THEY HAD RUN OVER A CHILD.) OCCUPANTS OF THE CARS WERE THEN TAKEN TO THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL (AUH), WHERE TWO WERE DEAD ON ARRIVAL, TWO VERY SERIOUSLY INJURED, AND FOUR HAD RELATIVELY MINOR WOUNDS. (SOME SOURCES REPORTED THAT TWO OTHER DEAD WERE LEFT BEHIND IN OUZAI.) ONE OF THOSE WITH MINOR WOUNDS, ONLY A SLIGHT CUT BEHIND HIS EAR, WAS SITTING ALONE IN X-RAY ROOM, WHEN A GRENADE APPARENTLY HIDDEN ONSIDE OF HIS LEG EXPLODED AND KILLED HIM. GRENADE FORTUNATELY CAUSED NO OTHER CASUALTIES BUT PUT AUH X-RAY FACILITIES OUT OF ACTION FOR TIME BEING.

5. IN THE CHOUF, UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS MURDERED TWO PRO-CHAMOUN DRUZE CAUSING SYRIAN ASF FORCES TO GO ON INCREASED ALERT, ACCORDING TO LEBANESE MILITARY SOURCES. THERE WERE ALSO NUMEROUS MEETINGS IN MEMORY OF KAMAL, BUT NO VIOLENCE.

6. NOTE: WEST GERMAN AMBASSADOR PACHELBEL TOLD ME WALID HAD CONSIDERED INVITING REPRESENTATIVES OF WESTERN POWERS AND HAS ASKED WHAT PACHELBEL THOUGHT. LATTER SAID HE HAD ASSUMED THIS WAS POLITICAL, NOT GOVERNMENTAL RALLY, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR FOREIGN AMBASSADORS TO GO. WALID AGREED. AM GLAD HE DID.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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